

GEORGE AND ANN RICHARDS

Civil War Era Center

THE SOCIETY OF CIVIL WAR HISTORIANS HOLDS FIRST BIENNIAL CONFERENCE



Penn Staters at the Society of Civil War Historians Conference in Philadelphia. 1st row: Carol Reardon, William Blair, Barby Singer
2nd row: Andrew Prymak, Timothy Orr, Mark E. Neely, Jr., Timothy Wesley. Not pictured: Anthony Kaye, Alfred Wallace

The Society of Civil War Historians (SCWH) hosted its first biennial conference on June 15–17, 2008, at The Union League in Philadelphia. The Richards Center organized the affair, which attracted more than eighty scholars from sixty academic and public institutions. Roughly 170 presenters and participants registered for the meeting, which featured twenty sessions covering a range of topics from antebellum America through Reconstruction. Mark E. Neely, Jr., McCabe Greer Professor of the Civil War Era at Penn State, delivered the keynote address.

“Thanks in large part to Bill Blair [Richards Center Director] and Barby Singer [Staff Assistant], the first national conference of the Society of Civil War Historians was a great success,” says George C. Rable, outgoing president of the SCWH and professor and Charles Summersell Chair in Southern History at The University of Alabama. “The Union League proved to be a terrific venue. I heard nothing but praise about the entire conference. Both the attendance and the quality of the program were outstanding. Mark Neely’s keynote address was superb.”

The meeting marks the first attempt to have a national conference dedicated to exploring the Civil War era broadly defined, which incorporates military, political, social, and cultural history.

William Blair, professor of history and director of the Richards Center, helped spearhead the creation of the conference and a new SCWH organization that has merged with the journal *Civil War History*, edited at Penn State. Blair noted, “As strange as it may sound, this conference is something new: before this event a general meeting had not existed for one of the most active areas of the historical profession. The conference brings together the field’s top historians, graduate students, and professionals who do not normally converse. From the feedback of participants at the Philadelphia conference, it is clear that this conference will enrich the field and continue to showcase the leadership of Penn State in this important area of U.S. history.”

The Richards Center was well represented at the conference. Scholars-in residence Mark E. Neely, Jr. and Carol Reardon, and affiliated faculty member Anthony Kaye presented their work, as did graduate students Timothy Orr, Alfred Wallace, and Timothy Wesley.

The next SCWH conference will be in Richmond in 2010. The notable generosity of Howell and Sondra Rosenberg enabled the Center to host this inaugural event.

Richards Center Meets The Latest Challenge

For the third consecutive year, the Richards Civil War Era Center hit its target for annual fund-raising, collecting \$1.1 million for the National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH) *We the People* Challenge Grant. This places the Center’s total progress in the campaign at \$2.35 million, thanks to the generous support of alumni and friends. With a final year left in the match, Penn State needs to raise approximately \$600,000 to ensure that the university does not leave unclaimed another \$100,000 of the government’s challenge.

“This remarkable achievement is indicative of the ten years of hard work and generosity of alumni and friends of the Center, in particular the board members,” says William Blair, professor of history and director of the Richards Center. “The funds from this campaign will change people’s lives, giving graduate students new opportunities for research, undergraduates more chances for internships, public school teachers new insights into the past, and the public a fresh appreciation of the price of freedom.”

In August 2005, the Richards Center received one of the NEH’s largest *We the People Challenge Grants* ever, and aims to raise a total of \$3 million by next February in order to capture \$1 million in NEH funding. The award recognized the Center as an initiative that deserved public investment and has helped establish the Richards Center as the nationally pre-eminent resource for shaping the scholarly and public understanding of the struggle for freedom.

Continued on back page

CENTER LAUNCHES DIGITAL HISTORY PROJECT

The Richards Center is spearheading a digital project designed to tell the rich story of Pennsylvania's Civil War through the creation of a Web site that stimulate original, online scholarship. The project focuses on the understudied story of the war away from the battlefield, on Pennsylvania's homefront, by showcasing the valuable historical documents located at the many state, county, and local historical societies and institutions throughout the state.

"This project is important for at least three reasons," said Karen Fisher Younger, managing director of the Richards Center. "Not only will the project uncover and identify new material on the subject, it will also preserve and protect deteriorating documents and, then, give scholars and interested students of the Civil War access to new sources for promoting studies of Pennsylvania during the Civil War era."

The project is unique because it will create something innovative in the history field. Partnering with Penn State Libraries, the project will create an interactive Web site that mainstreams digital media within the history profession, encouraging scholars to explore marrying the traditional archival research with the possibilities of the digital media.

The Richards Center is also serving as a consultant for Pennsylvania's state efforts to commemorate the Civil War sesquicentennial. Karen Fisher Younger is acting as the content editor for the state's Web site titled, "Understand the War Through People Then and Now." Graduate students and former graduates of the department of History will contribute their scholarly expertise to this initiative by providing interpretive essays on various topics relevant to the project.

ANNUAL ARTHUR WELSH AWARD

The Richards Center recognized the efforts of Ted H. and Tracy Winfree McCourtney, a 1965 graduate, and Howell and Sondra Rosenberg, both 1971 graduates, with the Arthur L. Welsh Award for Outstanding Support of the Richards Center in 2007–2008. The annual award honors the memory of the late Arthur Welsh, a retired professor of economics at Penn State who supported the Richards Center and lightened every occasion with his wit, poignant insights, and passion for uncovering the past.

Ted H. and Tracy Winfree McCourtney were critical in helping the Center achieve the second leg of a fairly daunting challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Their generosity came at the eleventh-hour of the third-year deadline, ensuring a match of \$300,000 from the Federal government.

Howell and Sondra Rosenberg singlehandedly made two ventures possible—the first biennial conference for the Society of Civil War Historians and the start of a project to find and digitize materials that tell the northern side of the Civil War.

"The award itself honors the memory of one of our dear departed—one of the pioneers in the Center's life," says William Blair, professor of history and director of the Richards Center. "We're honored to perpetuate his name in this fashion."

In appreciation for their generosity, each couple received a framed 1878 lithograph of the Penn State campus featuring the original Old Main building.



Lew Gold, Artie Welsh and Steve Brose



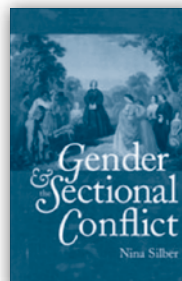
Ted H. and Tracy Winfree McCourtney receiving the Arthur Welsh Award in Gettysburg May 2008.



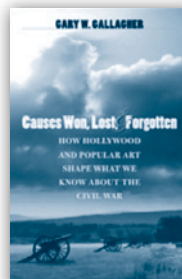
Sondra and Howell Rosenberg receiving the Arthur Welsh Award in Philadelphia June 2008.

BANNER YEAR FOR THE BROSE DISTINGUISHED LECTURE AND BOOK SERIES

The Steven and Janice Brose Distinguished Lecture and Book Series continues to produce notable works on the Civil War era, releasing two books in 2008. The latest volume in the series published by the University of North Carolina Press is Nina Silber's *Gender and the Sectional Conflict*. In an insightful exploration of gender relations during the Civil War, Silber compares the experiences of northern and southern women, one of the first studies to take this comprehensive view. Despite important similarities, argues Silber, differing gender ideologies shaped the way each side viewed, participated in, and remembered the war. Professor Silber was the 2006 Steven and Janice Brose Distinguished Lecture speaker.



Gary W. Gallagher's *Causes Won, Lost, and Forgotten: How Hollywood and Popular Art Shape What We Know about the Civil War*, also appeared in 2008. This third volume in the series is based on Gallagher's Brose lectures at Penn State in 2004. Gallagher analyzes contemporary portrayals of the Civil War in movies, television, and other popular media, showing how art and film have shaped our perceptions of the war and its legacy.



The fifth volume, *Lincoln's Proclamation: Race, Place, and the Paradoxes of Emancipation*, is forthcoming fall 2009. The book features collected essays drawn from some of history's top Civil War era scholars who gathered for the Emancipation Proclamation Symposium held at Penn State in April 2007.

The first volume in the series, Mark E. Neely Jr.'s *The Boundaries of American Political Culture in the Civil War Era*, appeared in September 2005. Mark Noll authored the second volume which appeared in April 2006. Noll's *The Civil War as a Crisis in Theology* is in its second printing. This publication series, as well as the lecture series on which these volumes are based, is made possible by the generous support of Steven and Janice Brose. Steven is a 1969 honors graduate in political science from Penn State.

Graduate Student Support Nears \$50,000

The Richard Center continues to strengthen its graduate program by boosting graduate funding. The generous support of alumni and special friends of the Richard Center is essential to our graduate students. Membership support and other gifts help students advance research and writing and encourage professional development through presentations at conferences. This year, total support for graduate students and activities, including research funding, came to more than \$45,500, thanks to the generous support of alumni, friends, and of special note, Karen and Lewis Gold, George Middlemas and Sherry Petska, Gretchen and Larry McCabe, Anne and George Miller, George and Ann Richards, Howell and Sondra Rosenberg, the Carl Isham memorial fund.

IN THE NEWS

Kaye Finalists for Prestigious Douglass Book Prize



Anthony E. Kaye

Anthony Kaye was one of four finalists for the Tenth Annual Frederick Douglass Book Prize, awarded for the best book written in English on slavery or abolition, for his book *Joining Places: Slave Neighborhoods in the Old South* (University of North Carolina Press). This year's finalists were

selected from a field of more than seventy-five entries. The other finalists included Stephanie Smallwood for *Saltwater Slavery: A Middle Passage from Africa to American Diaspora* (Harvard University Press); Kristin Mann for *Slavery and the Birth of an African City: Lagos, 1760–1900* (Indiana University Press); and Chandra Manning for *What this Cruel War Was Over: Soldiers, Slavery, and the Civil War* (Alfred A. Knopf Publishers). Smallwood was selected the winner of the coveted \$25,000 award.

OTHERS IN THE NEWS

Professor **Amy Greenberg**, was named Top Young Historian by History News Network of George Mason University in December 2007. The award is given to historians who have made outstanding contributions to the discipline in their scholarship and teaching.

Professor **Carol Reardon** accepted the call to be the history department's director of graduate studies. This is not new territory of Reardon. She served as interim director from 2005-2006, as well. Reardon was also invited to serve as the General Mark W. Clark Chair of History at The Citadel in the spring 2010. The Clark chair brings top scholars to campus to teach a specialty class and to assist the history department in organizing seminars and other outlets for showcasing cutting-edge scholarship and the free exchange of ideas.

Professor **Anne Rose** has been named Distinguished Professor of History and Religious Studies. She also was awarded the annual prize for best article by the Society for the History of Psychology, a subdivision of the American Psychological Association in July 2008. Her essay was: "The Discovery of Southern Childhoods: Psychology and the Transformation of Schooling in the Jim Crow South," *History of Psychology* 10 (2007), 249–78.

Doctoral candidate **Timothy Wesley** was awarded the Milton B. Dolinger Graduate Fellowship Research Award from the College of the Liberal Arts in March 2008.

Richards Center Affiliated Teachers Win State Award



Susan Anderson, Debrah Poveromo, Jill Anderson at the PCSS Awards and Presidential Reception, Eisenhower Hotel and Conference Center, Gettysburg, PA.

Debrah Poveromo, coordinator of the State College Area School District College Prep United States History & Social Studies program and site coordinator for the Richards Center Teacher Initiative on the Freedom Struggle; Susan Anderson, Social Studies teacher; and Jill Campbell, Learning Enrichment/Gifted Support teacher won the 2008 Outstanding Social Studies Project of the Year from the Pennsylvania Council of the Social Studies (PCSS) for their development and implementation of the History Trunk project.

"The State College Area School district has had the honor of partnering with the Richards Center for the past eight years. During those years, I have attended workshops and teacher seminars that have proven to be invaluable as a social studies teacher," said Poveromo. "The Richards Center has provided me with the scholarship and confidence to become a resource for helping other teachers and students know more about slavery and racism within the American experience."

The project guides 11th-grade students in the creation of artifacts (documents, photographs, material objects) that they then place into a trunk stressing a particular theme, in this case the freedom struggle from slavery through civil rights. The 11th-graders then take the material they have developed and serve as teachers to students in the lower grades. The honor received by these teachers is a highly competitive, state-wide program. They were presented the award at the annual PCSS Conference at the Eisenhower Hotel and Conference Center in Gettysburg on October 16.



Participants of the Teachers Institute at Tulane University.

TEACHERS INSTITUTE MEETS IN NEW ORLEANS

The Richards Center, in coordination with the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation and Tulane University, sponsored its eighth annual teachers institute at Tulane University June 23–28, 2008. Dozens of teachers from Alabama, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Mississippi, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Norway, joined scholars and artists to commemorate the end of the legal slave trade in 1808 and remember slavery and its legacy. The institute was made possible, in part, by a generous endowment from Arthur and Susan Glatfelter.

The institute featured historian Sylviane Diouf, director of the Schomburg-Mellon Humanities Institute, speaking on *Clotilda*, the last slave ship to arrive in the United States in 1861; and poetry readings by distinguished poets Kofi Anyidoho, professor of literature at the University of Ghana, and Nikky Finney, professor of creative writing at the University of Kentucky. One of the highlights of the week-long conference was an appearance by Ruby Bridges, who as a 6-year-old in 1960 was the first African American to desegregate New Orleans schools.

The institute introduced the teachers to the rich history of African Americans in New Orleans. The teachers visited Evergreen Plantation, the most intact plantation complex in the South, explored the French Quarter, including the Old Ursuline Convent and the Jazz National Historic Park, toured the Lower Ninth Ward, and participated in a symposium on Katrina and the African American community that featured a performance by the Mardi Gras Indians.



Nan Woodruff and famous New Orleans chef, Leah Chase, of the landmark restaurant Dooky Chase.

The teachers also presented site updates and activity debriefing. "As always, the teachers were terrific," noted Nan Woodruff, professor of history and national coordinator for the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) Trans-atlantic Slave Trade Education Project. "I was so impressed with their presentations and with the wonderful work that they continue to do in their classrooms."

The Summer Teacher's Institute expands the quality of effective instruction among teachers about the freedom struggle and its legacy, and supports student-teacher dialogue on topics relating to human rights and individual responsibilities.

BATTLEFIELD STUDY TOUR EXPLORES THE VALLEY CAMPAIGN

Penn State's seventeenth annual battlefield study tour focused its four-day program on "Stonewall Jackson's Way: The Valley Campaign of 1862." Led by Richards Center Scholar-in-Residence Carol Reardon and her faculty of five expert battlefield tour leaders and historians, more than ninety attendees explored one of the Civil War's most interesting generals in military history.

This year participants managed to elude torrential rainfalls typical of past tours and enjoyed seasonable weather and exceptional teaching. As one participant noted, "History is much more real, enjoyable, and just plain fun with great leaders and an enthusiastic commander [Carol Reardon]."



Frank O'Reilly, Gary Ecelbarger, Keith Alexander, Carol Reardon, William Blair



Undergraduate intern, Ryan Hinkle, standing beside the wheel of canon during a demonstration at Harpers Ferry.

Internship Program Continues to Enrich Students

Thanks to Laurence H. and Lynne G. Brown, the Richards Center sponsored three summer interns in 2008. David Moyer, a junior history major, worked at Gettysburg National Military Park; secondary education major Ryan Hinkle spent twelve weeks educating students at Harpers Ferry National Battlefield Park; and junior Ryan McDonough assisted archivists at the Heinz History Center in Pittsburgh.

The internship experience continues to exceed recipients' expectations. Ryan Hinkle's childhood dream of serving as a Civil War park tour guide was fulfilled at Harpers Ferry. "From the time I was a child I dreamed of serving as a tour guide and being able to enjoy the atmosphere that surrounds such a sacred and historic site," he says. "Thanks to the kindness and goodwill" of the Browns "I . . . fulfill[ed] my dream . . ." David Moyer echoes Hinkle's enthusiasm. "[I]t was such a rewarding experience," says Moyer, "it was one of the best, most fulfilling, experiences of my life."

With additional resources from the NEH Challenge, the Center is planning to expand the internship program to include Antietam Battlefield Park. Interns perform a variety of useful and educational duties, including designing and implementing programs, working with the public, conducting research, and learning the basics of historical preservation and conservation techniques.

CENTER BRINGS TOGETHER NATION'S GRADUATE STUDENTS

The Center increased its commitment to encourage the next generation of scholars by sponsoring a two-day graduate conference titled, "Liberty and Freedom During the Civil War." The ten invited speakers were awarded a \$250 travel stipend made possible from the donations of alumni and other supporters in the NEH Challenge campaign. The presenters came from such highly regarded programs as Rice University, the University of Pennsylvania, Carnegie Mellon, and Boston College. Anne Brinton, Richards Center graduate student, organized the conference.



Participants of the Richards Center Graduate Student Conference. Kneeling: **Nicole Myers Turner** (Univ. of Pennsylvania); **N. Bret Seferian** (Univ. of Florida); **Jessica Cannon** (Rice Univ.) Standing: **Eric Duchess** (W. VA Univ.); **Michael Spurr** (Univ. of Nevada); **James Finelli** (Univ. of Albany); **Taylor Patterson** (Univ. of Florida); **Maria Angela Diaz** (Univ. of Florida); **Katherine Chilton** (Carnegie Mellon Univ.); **Hidetaka Hirota** (Boston College)

This year's conference will explore the topic, "The Civil War Era in Global Perspective" on February 6-7, 2009, at the Days Inn Penn State.

GEORGE AND ANN RICHARDS CIVIL WAR ERA CENTER 2008–2009 LECTURE SERIES

October 3, 2008

Douglas Egerton

LeMoyne College

“Death or Liberty: African Americans and Revolutionary America”

4:00 p.m., 102 Weaver

October 31, 2008

Jonathan Earle

University of Kansas

“A Martyr, A Speaker, and Irrepressible Conflict: A Prologue to the Election of 1860”

4:00 p.m., 102 Weaver

January 23, 2009

GRADUATE STUDENT WORKSHOP

J. Adam Rogers

“Union Odyssey: The Demobilization and Readjustment of Pennsylvania’s Civil War Veterans”

Respondents: Rachel Moran, Alfred Wallace

4:00 p.m., 302 Pond Lab

All lectures are free and open to the public and sponsored by the George and Ann Richards Civil War Era Center and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) *We the People* Challenge Grant.

February 6–7, 2009

RICHARDS CENTER GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE

“The Civil War Era in Global Perspective”

Times to be announced,
Days Inn Penn State

February 27, 2009

Rosanne Adderley

Tulane University

“Abolition, Amelioration and Sexual Exploitation: Female African ‘Apprentices’ in the British Caribbean, 1810–1830”

4:00 p.m., 302 Pond Lab

April 3, 2009

Kathi Kern

University of Kentucky

“Religious Identities and Women’s Rights in the Gilded Age”

4:00 p.m., 102 Weaver

Steven and Janice Brose Distinguished Lecture Series in the Civil War Era

March 19–21, 2009

Carol Reardon

Penn State

Professor Reardon will be speaking on *Beyond Jomini*, an examination of strategy, leadership, and soldiers in the Civil War.

March 19 and 20, 7:00 p.m.

March 21, 3:00 p.m.

Foster Auditorium, Pattee Library



GEORGE AND ANN RICHARDS
Civil War Era Center
1808 Bicentennial Commemoration
This event recognizes the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade to the United States.
Thursday, October 23, 2008

1:00–3:30 p.m.
Read-In
We will host a public, mini-marathon Read-In of documents related to the slave trade. Members of the University and Centre County communities will read 2–4 minute excerpts from the documents, and bring about the duration of the slave trade to participants and passers-by at Pattee State.

4:00 p.m.
Sylviane A. Diouf
Director, Schomburg–Mellon Humanities Institute, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture
“The Transatlantic Slave Trade: The Human Story”
Diouf is the author of the award-winning *Slaves of Africa to America: The Slave Ship Captain and the Story of the Last African Voyage to America* (Oxford University Press, 2007).

Both events are free and open to the public.
Sponsored by The Center for American Literary Studies, the George and Ann Richards Civil War Era Center and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) *We the People* Challenge Grant.

This publication is available in alternative media on request.

October 23, 2008

Bicentennial Commemoration of the Abolition of the Transatlantic Slave Trade in the U.S., 1808–2008

1:00–3:30 p.m.

Steps of Pattee Library
Penn State University Park Campus

A public mini-marathon Read-In of documents related to the slave trade by members of the University and Centre County communities.

Sylviane A. Diouf

The Schomburg–Mellon Humanities Institute, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture

“The Transatlantic Slave Trade: The Human Story”

4:00 p.m., 207 Henderson South

Co-sponsored by The Center for American Literary Studies

AT A GLANCE: OUR GRADUATE STUDENTS



Parker Ainsworth is a second year graduate student of the Richards Center with research interests in sensory history and Civil War medicine and works with Professor Carol Reardon as his advisor.



Doctoral candidate **Anne Brinton** was awarded a travel grant for dissertation research from the Warren W. Hassler Graduate Fellowship in the Civil War Era. Anne visited the Filson Historical Library in Louisville, Kentucky, the Western Historical Manuscript Collection in Columbia, Missouri and the National Archives in Washington, D.C. for her project, "Wartime Slave Emancipation in the Loyal Western Border States." This year Anne co-organized the George and Ann Richards Civil War Era Center Graduate Student Conference in February 2008, and the Department of History and Religious Studies Program Graduate Conference held in October 2008.



Second year graduate student **William Bryan's** research interests include nineteenth century United States history and environmental history and his advisor is Dr. Adam Rome. In February

Will chaired a panel at the Richards Center Graduate Student Conference and during the summer attended the Frank C. Munson Institute for American Maritime Studies at Mystic Seaport where he won the 2008 Hardin Craig Prize for his paper on the influence of marine insurance on ship timber.



Graduate student **Debra Daggs** is also the full-time Learning Enrichment Teacher at the Mount Nittany Middle School in State College, Pennsylvania. She will be on a sabbatical leave of absence spring semester '09 to work on her dissertation on the suppression of the slave trade. The McCabe Greer Professorship funded Debra's dissertation research trip to New York.

David Greenspoon, doctoral candidate with the research dissertation, "Children's Mite: Juvenile Philanthropy in America, 1815-1865," received travel funds from the Lawrence J. and Gretchen McCabe



Program Fund in the Richards Civil War Era Center. David conducted research at the Baldwin Library of Historical Children's Literature at the University of Florida, which houses one of the largest collections of children's literature in the United States with over 100,000 titles. Additionally, he received a Friends of Princeton University Library Research Grant, a Research and Graduate Studies Office Dissertation Support Grant from the College of Liberal Arts at Pennsylvania State University, and a Predoctoral Doctoral Fellowship from the History Department at Pennsylvania State University. David was also a commentator for a Richards Center graduate student workshop and for the Richards Center Graduate Student Conference.



Doctoral candidate **Matthew Isham** is currently working on his dissertation, "The political antislavery movement, 1848-1865" with advisor Mark E. Neely, Jr. and teaching an on-line web course, American Civilization Since 1877. Matt was a commentator for the Richards Center Graduate Student conference held in February 2008. That same month Matt presented a paper at the 11th annual New Frontiers in Graduate History Conference in Toronto, Canada.



Second year graduate student **Kelly Knight** is working with Professor William Blair on black churches in the Civil War era. In February Kelly chaired a panel at the Richards Center Graduate Student Conference.



Doctoral candidate **Timothy Orr** was awarded a grant for dissertation and conference paper research from the Karen and Lewis H. Gold Graduate Fellowship in the Richards Center and from the Richards Civil War Era Center Enhancement Fund in the College of the Liberal Arts (NEH Challenge Grant). Tim presented a paper at the Society of Civil War Historians Conference in Philadelphia, and delivered a presentation at the twelfth Biennial Gettysburg National

Military Park Scholarly Seminar in April 2008. Along with writing two book reviews, Tim also published an article in "The Most Shocking Battle I Ever Witnessed: The Second Day at Gettysburg (Gettysburg National Military Park, 2008). Tim served as a commentator on a panel at the Civil War Graduate Student History Conference February 2008. He also became engaged!



Andrew Prymak was appointed as a research assistant for the year thanks to funds provided by Howell and Sondra Rosenberg. Andrew has been collecting data and surveying the collections found in the Special Collections Library located at Pattee Library, Penn State University Park campus for the statewide digital project the Richards Center is spearheading. He also chaired a panel at the Richards Center Graduate Student conference.



Graduate Student **J. Adam Rogers** took trips to the Historical Society of Schuylkill County, the public documents of wills, registers, and court proceedings at the Pottsville public library, and visited the Ciletti Memorial Library at Penn State Schuylkill thanks to a grant for dissertation research from the Carl M. Isham Graduate Award in the Richards Civil War Era Center fund. This summer Adam attended the highly selective West Point Summer Seminar in Military History. In addition, Adam was a respondent for the Department of History and Religious Studies Program 2008 Graduate Conference and will be the presenter at the Richards Center Graduate Student Workshop in January 2009.



Graduate student **Jonathan Steplyk** received funds for a summer internship at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park from the Richards Civil War Era Center Enhancement Fund in the College of the Liberal Arts (NEH Challenge Grant). Jonathan also presented a paper at the Department of History and Religious Studies Program Graduate Conference in October.



Alfred Wallace is a second year graduate student who is working on the Union occupation of Mississippi under the direction of Carol Reardon. In June Alfred presented a paper at the first biennial Society of Civil War Historians conference.



Doctoral candidate **Tim Wesley** is serving as Editorial Assistant for *Civil War History* and is funded by both the James Landing Graduate Fellowship in History and the Warren W. Hassler Graduate Fellowship in the Richards Center. A dissertation grant from the Karen and Lewis H. Gold Graduate Fellowship in the Richards Center enabled him to make numerous research trips to denominational archives in Philadelphia, New York, Washington, D.C., St. Louis, and Nashville. This year Tim presented two papers, one as the featured speaker at the Graduate Student Workshop and the other paper was delivered at the Society of Civil War Historians Conference. Tim spent a week in New Orleans as a coordinator for the UNESCO Teacher's Institute on the Transatlantic Slave Trade.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



The Richards Center is pleased to welcome graduate student **Elizabeth "Lizzie" Anderson** to Penn State. Lizzie is a native of Waynesboro, Virginia, and comes to us by way of the College of William and Mary. Lizzie's exceptional undergraduate record and promise as a future historian earned her a distinguished graduate student fellowship from Penn State's College of the Liberal Arts, Department of History and Religious Studies Program, and the George and Ann Richards Civil War Era Center. "I was looking for a strong 19th century program," Lizzie said, "and Penn State seemed to be the best fit!"

When not hard at work on her studies, Lizzie spends her free time in the outdoors, hiking and camping. She also enjoys live music and is learning to play the banjo.

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PENN STATE Making Life Better®



Richards Center executive tour participants in Gettysburg, PA, May 2008.

NEH CHALLENGE continued from page 1

“The NEH grant is a great honor that recognizes the expertise and accomplishments of the Center and Penn State,” said George Richards, a 1954 graduate who with his wife, Ann, endowed the center in 2002. “We’re very fortunate that we’ve met our next mark. It’s a wonderful moment to look back on our accomplishments and, now that we’ve done it three times, I’m confident we can do it once more through the generous financial support of alumni and friends of the center.”